

# GATEWAY NEWS



October 2016

Volume 32, No. 9

Greater St. Louis chapter is an affiliate of Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA), 7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1200, Bethesda, MD 20814. The mission of HLAA is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss by providing information, education, support, and advocacy. HLAA has more than 150 chapters and 14 state organizations.



**There will be NO meeting in October. Instead, join us at Queeny Park on October 8th at 9 am for the annual WALK4HEARING.**

**SAVE THE DATE  
FOR OUR ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY!!!**

Our annual Holiday party will be held on December 10th at Helen Fitzgerald's, 3650 S. Lindbergh, from 11:30 –3:30. The price for the lunch buffet will be \$12.00 per person. We will be collecting for Crisis Nursery this year. We will have a list of items they specifically requested from us in the November newsletter.

If you are planning on coming, **please RSVP by Friday, December 3rd**, to Kathy Patrick, [kathyp2880@gmail.com](mailto:kathyp2880@gmail.com) or call **636-296-2393**.

## Chairperson's message

Hello everyone!

October is upon us and so far, the temperature doesn't say Fall, but the leaves are turning, so I guess it is! Our October 8th meeting will be the WALK4HEARING at Queeny Park in St. Louis County. We hope many of you will attend this walk as we make hearing loss an issue of national concern! We have raffles, food, vendors and lots of things for kids to do, including a petting zoo and ponies to ride. So, if you have grandchildren or great-grandchildren, please feel free to bring them along! There are lots of teams for you to join—the chapter team is EARS to US! If you need help registering, just email me at [marizo4912@charter.net](mailto:marizo4912@charter.net), and I will be happy to help!!!!

In November, Christine Pett from Med-El will be speaking. She will be talking about their cochlear implant, but more importantly, she will be talking about communication issues, whether you use a hearing aid, cochlear implant or both. I can say for me, that communication issues are the most important aspect of my hearing loss.

We hope to see ALL of you at the WALK4HEARING on October 8th and at the November 12th meeting.

A heads up that our holiday party will again be at Helen Fitzgerald's on December 10th.

Mary Stodden

## Chapter News

### UNIFIED DUES ARE COMING!!!

Many of us are chapter members as well as national members of HLAA. Beginning January 1st, we hope to be starting unified dues. We will only have dues for National at the cost of \$35.00. Ten dollars of that will be sent to our chapter for our local expenses. For those who are not National members, we encourage you to join National, but that is certainly not a requirement. If you choose not to join National, we would like a donation to help defray expenses, such as the newsletter, meeting room and captioning.

With this move, anyone who joins National within our zip codes, will automatically become a local member, and we will receive \$10 from National. We have many members who don't come to our local meetings, so this may have an impact on our meetings! Please discuss with other members or email anyone the board. Our emails are in the newsletter and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have! We will vote on this at the November meeting! (Contributed by Mary Stodden)

**Meetings are held the second Saturday of the month at the Deaf Community Center, 25 E. Frisco, Webster Groves, MO.**

**There is no meeting in January or August.**

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#### **Chapter Committee**

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[www.hlaastl.org](http://www.hlaastl.org)



## **It's almost here! October 8, 2016**

Co-Chairs  
Kathy Patrick  
Mary Stodden

Our Walk4Hearing is coming up quickly! It will be here in just a couple of weeks!

**We could always use more volunteers, especially with set up. If you or someone you know would be interested in donating some time for set up, please have them contact Kathy Patrick, or Mary Stodden.**

Want to know what's in store for the Walk? We have Fredbird and Louie, the St. Louis Cardinals and the St. Louis Blues mascots! Nina Poersch, a St. Louis native and Cochlear Implant recipient will be at the walk. Nina was on the show "Survivor" a couple of years ago and will be walking with the Cochlear Americas team. We will also have Y98 radio personality Kevin, "the Intern" and his family coming to the walk. Kevin's daughter is also a Cochlear Implant Recipient. We will have a \$100 Toys R Us gift card for the top individual child, 12 or under, who raises the most money. We will also have a \$150 Visa debit card for the individual adult who raises the most money. **These are not team totals—individual adult and individual child.** We will have pony rides and a petting zoo this year! We also have a lot of prizes as well!

Now is the time to register your team or join a team if you haven't already done so. The chapter team is EARS to US!! If you don't want to have your own team, sign up under the chapter team!

Our walks are growing a little bit each year! Did you know we had close to 500 people last year? That is amazing! We have doubled what we started with! We still have many people to reach!! Get involved and help us make our walks grow more every year!

## **Let's Walk4Hearing!!**

### **NEW NEWSLETTER FEATURE!!! Q & A COLUMN by Lori Calcaterra**

Each month, Lori will be posing a question in our newsletter. Your job is to respond to the question by sending an email to Lori with your answer. In the September newsletter, Lori asked what our opinion is of our captioned phones, if we have one. Two people have responded. Hopefully, as we move along, more people will respond. Her email is [Lorical27@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Lorical27@sbcglobal.net). Look for the answers and next question starting on page 3 of this newsletter! (Contributed by Mary Stodden)

### Salt Palace Convention Center

100 South West Temple

Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

Location of Opening Session, Research Symposium, and all workshops



### Little America Hotel

500 South Main Street

Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

Location of Friday evening *HLAA Stars Come Out (Awards Ceremony & Talent Show)* and evening *Cranky Cochlea Dinner Theater*

We are shaking the Convention up for 2017! What's new and different?

- The name of the event – **HLAA2017 Convention** (old version would have been Convention 2017). Add a hashtag and you have the start of a tweet! #HLAA2017 is the official Convention hashtag on Twitter.
- The opening night **Get Acquainted Party** will take place at the Caption Call headquarters in Salt Lake City and include dinner, entertainment, raffles and tours of the call center.
- Instead of the Awards Breakfast and Ceremony on Sunday morning, we will be adding a Friday night Awards and Talent event, **HLAA Stars Come Out**. Stay tuned for more details; it's not too early to start thinking about what song you will sing, what instrument you will play, or what magic trick you will perform! The winner of the talent show will be the opening act for Gael Hannan's *Huh? Life with a Cranky Cochlea* on Saturday evening.
- Sunday will be available for optional tours – more information coming soon. You will want to take some time to see Salt Lake City and the surrounding area – breathtaking!
- **Educational workshops** will focus on: research on tinnitus and noise; advocacy; hearing assistive technology (HAT); and cochlear implants and hearing aids
- **Early-bird registration** will open **November 1 and close March 31, 2017** (previously closed January 31)

### Cranky Cochlea Dinner Theater

Saturday, June 24

*Huh? Life with a Cranky Cochlea*

A hilarious and poignant performance about the hearing loss life performed by Gael Hannan, renowned hearing loss advocate. With musical guests – announced soon!

### Chapter Q & A Corner A new feature by Lori Calcaterra

In September St. Louis HLAA members were asked about their use of **caption telephones**. Two members responded, and their answers are summarized below by brand name and general remarks. Given that others have caption phones, we'll revisit the topic in a future newsletter.

**General:** "It is usually necessary to use a caption phone in order to have a successful conversation. I have two caption phones."

#### Caption Call:

"The phone that I use most is a Caption Call phone as it is in my basement office area where I can talk with minimal background noise. Presently I use that phone with the maximum volume and it still does not seem to be loud enough. Captions are not perfect, and some people talk too fast. Then, a wait is required for the captions to appear. Many times people do not speak clearly or loudly enough for even the person doing the captions to capture what is being said. In such a case I recognize that even normal hearing people would have a problem. Usually the captions can capture enough that I can proceed with the conversation, however." (User #1)

"I love it! The screen is big enough that the captions are easy to read. If I turn the volume up, I can hear on it, people don't have to call an 800 number first, and I, or they, don't have to say "go ahead" every time we are done saying what we want to say. But even though I can hear on it, I don't feel comfortable enough to not use the captions. Sometimes there is a little bit of a delay with the captioning, but I just tell whoever I am talking to that I am reading the captions before I answer them. That way they know why there is a delayed response, and it also reminds them that I have hearing loss as I told them at the beginning of the conversation (e.g. doctor's office or someone new calling)." (User #2)

Continued on page 4.....

### CapTel

"My other phone is a CapTel phone. It is located in our living room, and my wife normally has the TV on. Therefore, I seldom use this phone. This phone is not located where I can have a wired connection to my router, and wireless connection has been problematic with this phone. Power line connection has proved to be reliable unless power surges and take out the power line units." (User #1)

### Question for October:

#### What aid(s) do you use for television viewing/listening? Are you happy with them?

Please submit **answers and questions for future newsletters** to Lori Calcaterra, [lorical27@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lorical27@sbcglobal.net). It would be helpful to make the subject line "answer for October question". Thanks!

**\*\*Note\*\*** (Kathy Patrick here) You are welcome to use your name or not depending on your preference. When you send your answers to Lori, just specify your choice to her! We would like chapter members to get more involved, so please join in on the Q & A feature! Thank you!



#### October birthdays -Happy Birthday!

Oct. 19 Maria Schlomer, Oct. 23 Kathie Hanneke, and Oct. 26 Debby Ronzio

If we missed your birthday, and you would like to be included, please contact Diane Walters at 636-671-2525, email [Walters.Diane@att.net](mailto:Walters.Diane@att.net), or email Nancy Dietrich at [n.dietrich@wisperhome.com](mailto:n.dietrich@wisperhome.com).

**Thank you** Mary Stodden, Kathy Patrick, Kathie Hanneke, Lori Calcaterra and Karl Cook for providing the news/information.

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**October Quote** You cannot discover new oceans unless you have the courage to lose sight of the shore. (*Suanne Warner Pierot*, contributed by Kathie Hanneke)

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**Deadline for November newsletter is October 24th, 2016. Please send news or information to: Kathy Patrick, 3163 Wellington Way, Arnold, Mo. 63010, call 636-296-2393, or email [kathyp2880@gmail.com](mailto:kathyp2880@gmail.com).**

### HUMOR CORNER

Two elderly gentlemen from a retirement center were sitting on a bench under a tree when one turns to the other and says: "Slim, I'm 83 years old now and I'm just full of aches and pains. I know you're about my age. How do you feel?" Slim says, "I feel just like a newborn baby." "Really!? Like a newborn baby!?" "Yep. No hair, no teeth, and I think I just wet my pants." (Contributed by Karl Cook)

**Disclaimer** – Hearing Loss Association of America, Greater St. Louis Chapter neither recommends nor endorses products, people or services. Opinions expressed are those of the individuals, not those of the chapter.

## HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION APPLICATIONS

### Hearing Loss Association of America, Greater St. Louis Chapter

To join the chapter, I am enclosing dues of:

\_\_\_\_\$12 Individual \_\_\_\_\$17 family (up to 4)

The payment entitles me to the chapter newsletter and other information.

Name (Please print)\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address\_\_\_\_\_

Send a newsletter by E-mail Yes\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_

Member of HLAA National? Yes\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_

Birthday (Month/Day)\_\_\_\_\_

#### Check payable to:

HLAA--Greater St. Louis Chapter

**Mail to:** Kathy Patrick  
3163 Wellington Way  
Arnold, Mo. 63010

10/2016

### Hearing Loss Association of America

To join the national organization, Hearing Loss Association of America, I am enclosing **Individual dues** of \_\_\_\_\$35/1 yr. \_\_\_\_\$95/3 yrs. \_\_\_\_\$140/5 yrs. or

**Couple/Family dues** \$45/1 yr. (including subscription to *Hearing Loss Magazine*)

Or go to [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org)

Name (Please Print)\_\_\_\_\_   
\_\_\_\_ Mr. \_\_\_\_ Mrs. \_\_\_\_ Ms. \_\_\_\_ Dr.

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address\_\_\_\_\_

#### Check payable to:

HLAA Membership

**Mail to:** Hearing Loss Association of America  
7910 Woodmont Ave. Suite 1200  
Bethesda, Md. 20814

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HLAA  
Greater St. Louis Chapter  
3163 Wellington Way  
Arnold, Mo. 63010

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